

University Hygienic Laboratory

Response to Novel H1N1



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Role of Iowa's Public Health Laboratory

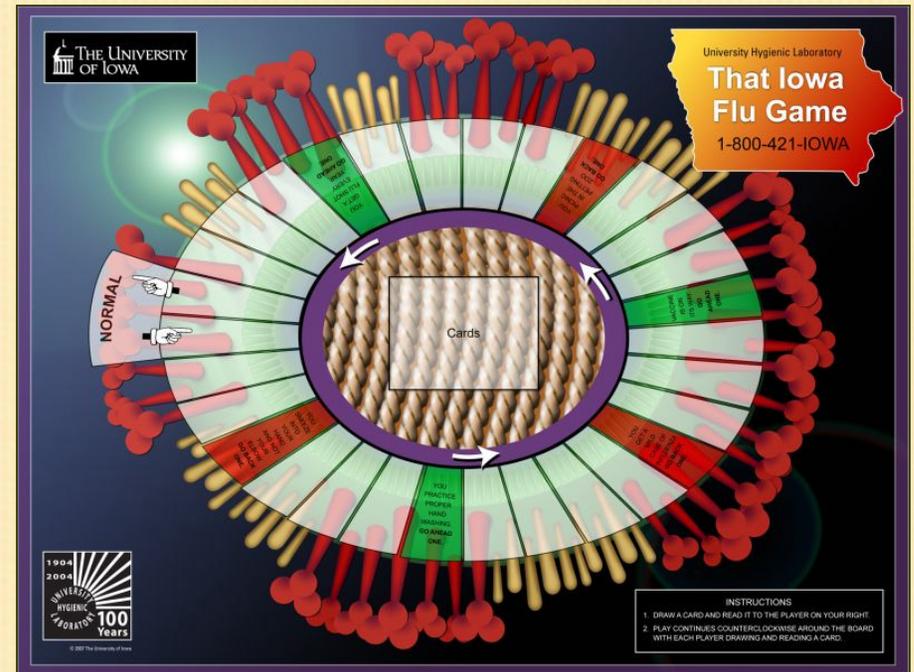


- Preparation
- Role during the spring outbreak
- Fall update



Pre-pandemic Planning

- 2005 – Pandemic plan
- 2005 – 09 Training
 - 1,963 scientists and others
 - “That Iowa Flu Game”
 - Iowa, Texas, Florida, nationwide
- 2008 – CDC/UHL study to validate new faster, more sensitive molecular test
- 2008 – CDC/UHL study to assess needs during a pandemic



Spring 2009

Novel H1N1 Emerges in Iowa



Volume of Testing

Average Turnaround Time: 22 hours (17 h – 30 h)

Week	Rec'd	Tested	Flu A	Novel Flu	Seasonal Flu
4/27-5/2	684	498	18	0	10
5/4- 5/9	619	472	62	56	8
5/10-5/15	237	187	22	19	8
5/18-5/23	167	163	20	11	9
5/25-5/30	89	81	17	22	1
Total	1796	1401	139	108	36

Meeting the Challenges

Challenge: Sustain testing levels in surge

Solution: Robotic testing unit

- Manual specimen processing = 20/day
- Robotic specimen processing = 72/day



Challenge:

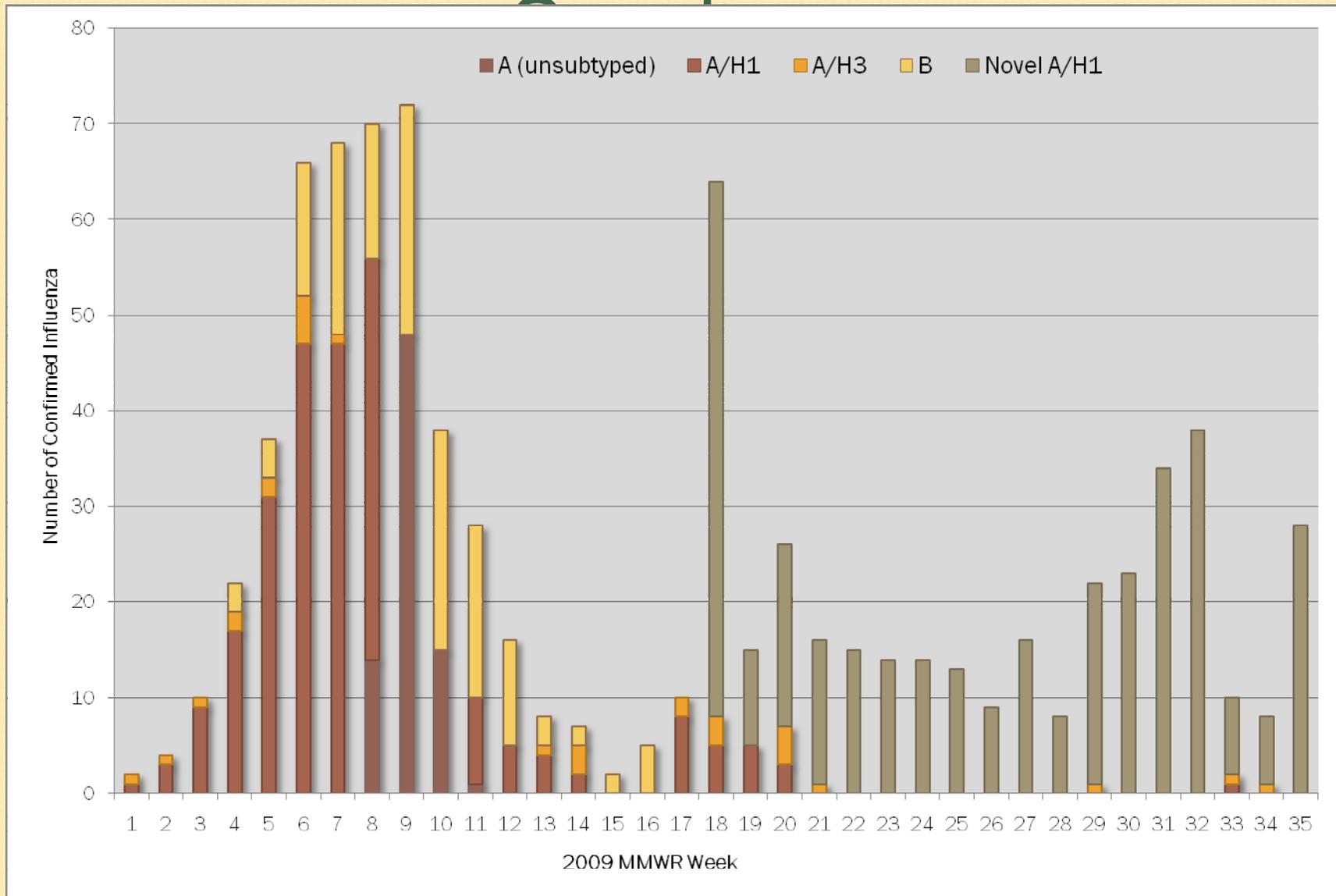
Staffing to conduct testing

Solution:

Assistance of CDC fellows



UHL Confirmed Influenza



Contributors to Success

- Confirmatory testing quickly in-house
- Weekend testing and double shifts
- Reporting results online
 - to CDC
 - to clinics
- Assistance of EID Fellows
- Conference calls with clinical labs
- Testing guidelines



Additional Cost-containment and Resource Reallocation

- Utilized statewide, contracted courier to transport novel H1N1 specimens
- Gatekeeper role to limit unnecessary testing
 - Followed CDC screening guidelines
 - Once confirmed in community, not necessary to test



Fall Updates

- Novel H1N1 never went away
- Hygienic Lab is growing virus for CDC
- Added two additional fellows
- Education
 - Healthcare providers
 - Daycare workers
 - Lab staff across state



Estimated Cost for Novel H1N1 Testing

- **Since April 21, 2009**
 - Lab equipment and supplies = \$277,204
 - Lab staff labor + \$246,682
 - Statewide courier + \$128,258
 - Subtotal = \$652,144
- **Through March 31, 2010 (if testing levels remain constant)**
 - Lab equipment and supplies = \$187,170
 - Lab staff labor + \$199,432
 - Statewide courier + \$128,258
 - Subtotal additional costs = \$514,860

TOTAL PROJECTED COSTS \$1,167,004

(4/21/09 through 3/31/10)

